GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5232
ANSWERED ON:14.05.2007
POST HARVESTING TECHNOLOGY
Badiga Shri Ramakrishna;Lagadapati Shri Rajagopal

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the aims and objectives of development and use of Post Harvest Technology;

(b) the manner in which the integration of post harvest technology with Technology Mission for Oil Seeds, Pulses and Maize help in stepping up of production of oil seeds, pulses and maize; and

(c) the details of indigenous technologies developed through research and development alongwith the demonstration units set up in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA)

(a) The main aim of post harvest technology is to reduce post harvest losses and add value to the produce as well as the residues and byproducts resulting into higher income and employment and healthier environment. The specific objectives of post harvest technology are as follows:

1. To develop processes, equipment and pilot plants for management and value addition of agriculture produce.

2. To undertake studies on techno-economic feasibility and viability of post harvest industries.

3. To create post harvest technology consciousness and transfer of proven technologies in production catchments and to monitor its effects on economic and social development.

4. To generate income and employment through adoption of proven technologies and equipment.

(b) Integration of Post Harvest Technology with the Technology Mission for Oilseed, Pulses and Maize is leading to reduction of post harvest losses and, thereby, increase in the availability of the oilseeds, pulses and maize. This is also facilitating the farmers of oilseeds, pulses and maize to increase their income through post harvest loss reduction and value addition. The increased income is encouraging the farmers to improve the productivity of the oilseeds, pulses and maize.

(c) Several institutions in the country including Central Institute of Post Harvest Engineering and Technology (Ludhiana) and other ICAR institutes, State Agricultural Universities, Indian Grain Management & Research Institute have been developing indigenous post harvest management and value addition technologies for different commodities and regions. The technologies relate to optimum time of harvesting, harvesting techniques, collection, cleaning, grading, drying, cooling, storage, milling and packaging. A list of technologies developed through R&D is enclosed as Annexure-A.

These technologies are being demonstrated for their usefulness by the centres of the All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) on Post Harvest Technology spread all over the country.

A list of selected demonstration units set up under the activities of the All India Coordinated Research Project in Post Harvest Technology, (ICAR) is given in Annexure - B.